

with whitish; chin pale plumbeous grey; a mark of clear plumbeous on each side of the chin, extending from the lower mandible; neck, in front and at the sides, with the upper part of the breast, like the back in colour, but a little lighter on the latter; lower part of breast, abdomen, and under tail-coverts of a paler brown, intermixed with light plumbeous; sides, under lining of wings, and axillars clear light plumbeous; bill black; feet reddish brown.

Length $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches, wing $6\frac{1}{2}$, tail $4\frac{1}{2}$, tarsus $1\frac{3}{16}$.

Hab. Guiana.

A single specimen of this Dove in my collection was obtained from Mr. Galbraith.

[Though apparently belonging to the same genus as *Melopelia leucoptera*, this Dove is very differently coloured. We should like to see collectors' specimens from a definite locality before giving a decided opinion about it.—END.]

XXII.—Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.

[Continued from p. 143.]

33. *Bogdanow's 'Birds of the Caucasus.'*

This volume being printed in Russian, we regret not to be able to say much about it. The scientific titles, being given in Latin, show that 323 species are enumerated as belonging to the Caucasian avifauna. The following species and subspecies seem to be new to science:—*Buteo menetriesi*, *Passer domesticus*, subsp. *caucasicus*, *Parus michalowskii*, *Pæcile brandtii*, *Ægithalus caspius*, *Picus poelzani*. Several generic terms, new to us, are also used, *e. g.* “*Salicipasser*” for *Passer montanus*, “*Plectrofringilla*” for *Passer alpicola*, Pallas, and “*Nigrilauda*” for *Alauda tatarica*.

34. *Ball's 'Jungle-Life in India.'*

[Jungle-Life in India, or the Journeys and Journals of an Indian Geologist. By V. Ball, M.A., Geological Survey of India. London: Thos. De la Rue & Co. 1880. 1 vol., 8vo.]

Mr. Ball's story of his life in the jungles of India will be

read with interest by every naturalist. Many allusions to birds will be found interspersed in his narrative. The nesting-habits of the Nicobar Pigeon (*Calœnas nicobarica*), which was found breeding in large numbers on Balti Malve (Nicobar group), have not been previously observed. In the appendix are given some notes on the birds of the area between the Ganges and Godavari rivers, and on those of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

35. *Coues's American Ornithological Bibliography.*

[Second Instalment of American Ornithological Bibliography. By Dr. Elliott Coues. Bull. U.S. Geol. & Geogr. Surv. vol. v. no. 2.]

Dr. Coues's second instalment contains the titles of all ornithological works and papers specially relating to the Neotropical region, "all general and miscellaneous works, and all those upon particular species, genera, or families of birds, being excluded." Many most useful notes and comments are given, besides the names of newly described species, and of those figured. The titles are arranged chronologically; but an alphabetical index of authors and localities is added.

There can be no question as to the value of this most laborious and most useful piece of work, which seems to have been executed in the most conscientious manner.

36. *Deslongchamps on the Genus Florisuga.*

[Étude sur le groupe des Jacobines (Oiseaux-Mouches) et le nouveau sous-genre *Melanotrochilus*. Guide d. Naturaliste, 1880, p. 7.]

The new subgeneric name *Melanotrochilus* is proposed for *Florisuga fusca* (Vieill.).

37. *Dole on the Birds of the Hawaiian Islands.*

[List of Birds of the Hawaiian Islands. By Sanford B. Dole. Corrected from the Hawaiian Annual.]

Some kind friend has sent us this list, which we only previously knew of from what Dr. Finsch has said (*Ibis*, 1880, p. 80). Fifty-three species are mentioned in it, and several

are described as new, viz. *Accipiter hawaii*, *Drepanis aurea*, *Fringilla anna*, and *Pennula millei*. *Pennula* is a new genus of Rallidæ, with rudimentary wings, of which the existence has been already spoken of by Dr. Gray (P. Z. S. 1862, p. 145). As the 'Hawaiian Annual' will not be generally accessible to ornithologists, we think it advisable to reprint the characters of the new species, except *Drepanis aurea*, which has been already described in this Journal (*anteà*, p. 80) by Dr. Finsch:—

ACCIPITER HAWAII. "Io." 14 inches long. Dark brown above; throat dull white; breast mottled brown and white; dull white feathers on legs and abdomen. Legs feathered below tarsi. Strong back claws. Legs and feet light and scaly. Never before described. Confounded with *Strix delicatula* of Samoa and Fiji Islands in previous lists.

Sparrow-hawk. Similar to young *Accipiter rufitorques* of Fiji Islands. Habitat Hawaii, rare on the rest of the group.

Mounted specimen in Mill's collection, Hilo, Hawaii.

DREPANIS ROSEA. "Iwipopolo." Not previously described. Similar to the latter (*D. coccinea*) in appearance, habits, and food. 6 inches long. Wings and tail dark brown; last secondaries white; upper and lower tail-coverts greenish yellow; general plumage bright scarlet, interspersed with masses of greenish-yellow feathers, mottled with black. Bill 1 inch, curved, white. Habitat whole group. Specimen in Mill's collection.

FRINGILLA ANNA. "Ulaaihawane." Not previously described. 5½ inches long. Bill short, straight. Toes, three front, one back. Wing-coverts and breast red; throat, primaries, and tail black; secondaries white; head grey, merging into white on the upper part of the neck, and grey, again, on the back. Habitat Hawaii. Probably belongs to the genus *Fringilla*.

This is a bird of remarkable beauty, its peculiar combination of colours producing a most harmonious and elegant effect.

PENNULA MILLEI. "Moho." Not previously described. 6½ inches long. Bill ¾ inch long, black, straight, sides compressed, curved at tip. Tail not visible. Wings rudimentary, hidden in the long, loose, hairy feathers. Plumage dark dull brown, ashy under the throat; feathers loose, hairy, long. Lower part of tibia naked. Legs long, set far back. Toes, three front, one back. Habitat uplands of Hawaii. Nearly extinct. Specimen in Mill's collection.

I feel confident that this remarkable bird belongs to the Rallidæ, but am unable to fix its place more definitely. It is the only bird which the natives call *Moho*, which word is nearly synonymous with the New-Zea-

land word *Moa*, which is their name for the gigantic wingless bird of that country. Regarding it as a new genus, I have taken the liberty of naming it as above, gladly thereby recognizing Mr. Mill's valuable services in preserving specimens of this bird, and giving others opportunities of studying it.

38. *Elliot's 'List of Humming-birds.'*

[List of Described Species of Humming-birds. By Daniel Giraud Elliot. Smithsonian Misc. Col. no. 334.]

This is a list of the 427 species of Trochilidæ recognized by Mr. Elliot in his Synopsis, of which we have spoken already (*Ibis*, 1879, p. 479). Its object is to "facilitate the labelling of specimens," and to "serve as a check-list of the species."

39. *Finsch's 'Journey to Western Siberia.'*

[Reise nach West-Sibirien im Jahre 1876. Auf Veranstaltung des Vereins für die deutsche Nordpolarfahrt in Bremen unternommen mit Dr. A. E. Brehm und Karl Graf v. Waldburg-Zeil-Trauchburg von Dr. O. Finsch. Royal 8vo. Berlin: Verlag von Erich Walbroth. 1879.]

This volume contains the narrative of Dr. Finsch's journey to Western Siberia in 1876, of which he has already given us some account in this Journal (see *Ibis*, 1877, p. 48). It is illustrated by many well-executed lithographic plates, taken from Dr. Finsch's sketches of life and scenery. Numerous allusions to birds occur throughout the work.

40. *Hume and Marshall's 'Game Birds of India.'*

[The Game Birds of India, Burmah, and Ceylon. By Hume and Marshall. 8vo. 44 plates, 280 pp. Vol. I. (No date on title, but preface dated July 1st, 1879.)]

The first volume of this work contains the Bustards, Sand-Grouse, Megapodes, Pheasants, Spur-fowl, and Snow-cocks. A chromolithograph of each species is accompanied by letter-press, consisting principally of field-notes. As regards the plates, they are certainly, to say the least of them, *not good*, although mostly sufficient for the determination of the species. But Mr. Hume has so justly criticised them himself, that it is not necessary for us to say much on the matter. The

letterpress, from Mr. Hume's pen, is full of interesting details as to habits and ranges, and well adapted for the object of the work.

41. *Hutton on a new Penguin.*

[On an apparently new Species of Penguin from Campbell Island. By F. W. Hutton. Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. W., vol. iv. p. 334.]

The new species, which is named *Eudyptes filholi*, after Dr. Filhol, naturalist of the French Transit-of-Venus Expedition, is allied to *E. chrysocome* and *E. chrysolophus*, but is distinguished by the yellow superciliary streaks commencing behind the termination of the culmen. An analysis of the known species of *Eudyptes* is added.

42. *Meyer's Index to Reichenbach's Ornithological Works.*

[Index zu L. Reichenbach's ornithologischen Werken zusammengestellt von A. B. Meyer. Royal 8vo. Berlin: R. Friedländer & Sohn. 1879.]

Dr. Meyer's index to Reichenbach's works will certainly be of great use to students in ornithology. Dr. Meyer's volume contains:—(1) an alphabetical index to the generic names used in Reichenbach's 'Avium Systema Naturale' (1849–50); (2) a list of the names of the species figured in the plates which accompany the 'Handbuch d. sp. Ornithologie;' these figures are numbered from 1 to 5060 (with many omissions); (3) a list of the names of the species figured in the 'Neu entdeckte Tauben-vögel,' the plates of which are separately numbered 1–82; (4) a list of the names of the species figured in the 'Singvögel' (51 plates); and (5) an alphabetical index to the names of the species contained in the above-mentioned works. In his preface Dr. Meyer gives a list of the dates of issue of the various portions of these works as far as it has been possible to make them out from the publishers. But it is a great pity Dr. Meyer has not given us a more exact account of what Reichenbach's works really consist of, and some indications of how they are best arranged. After devoting much time to the study of this subject, aided by the new Index, we regret

to say we are nearly as much in the dark on it as before. In our opinion, Reichenbach and his ways are quite incomprehensible to the ordinary intellect. We had hopes that Dr. Meyer would have solved the mystery; but he has not done so. For instance, in our 'Handbuch' we have 32 pages bound up (paged in roman numerals), containing an exposition of Reichenbach's system, and a list of genera, without title or date, but headed 'Die Vögel.' Dr. Meyer does not appear to have noticed or to have indexed this, although a multitude of new generic titles are given in it, *e. g.* *Cyrtopelicanus*, *Leptopelicanus*, *Catoptropelicanus*, *Chionochen*, *Stictonetta*, *Marmaronetta*, &c. Surely some notice should have been taken of these names, and they should have been referred to in the Index.

43. *Newton's edition of Tunstall's 'Ornithologia.'*

[Tunstall's *Ornithologia Britannica*. Edited by Alfred Newton, M.A., F.R.S., &c. London: 1880.]

The new Willughby Society, "for reprinting ornithological works interesting for their utility or rarity," have started with a reprint of Tunstall's '*Ornithologia Britannica*,' originally issued in 1773. Prof. Newton contributes a short but useful preface. The reprint, executed by photolithography, is reduced in size, but is otherwise a *facsimile*.

We believe that this will be followed by a reissue of Sir Andrew Smith's papers, and of A. H. Lichtenstein's '*Catalogus rerum Naturalium rarissimarum*,' both exceedingly scarce works.

44. *Oustalet's 'Ornithological Notes.'*

[Notes d'Ornithologie. Par M. E. Oustalet. Bull. Soc. Philomat. Paris, 1879, July 12.]

M. Oustalet shows that *Bubo sinensis* of Pèrre Heude (Ann. Sc. Nat. sér. 3, xx. no. 2), from Chinese Thibet, is identical with *Bubo coromandus*. He describes a Woodpecker from Laos, of which examples were transmitted to Paris by Dr. Harmand in 1877, as new, and calls it *Picus harmandi*. It

comes next to *P. macæi*. M. Oustalet also gives many notes on the birds of New Caledonia and the New Hebrides.

45. Oustalet on the Birds of Gaboon.

[Catalogue Méthodique des Oiseaux recueillis par M. Marche dans son voyage sur l'Ogôoué avec description d'espèces nouvelles, par M. E. Oustalet. Nouv. Arch. Mus. sér. 2, tome ii. p. 53.]

An important memoir on the birds collected by M. Marche during his recent expedition up the Ogové, in company with MM. Savorgnan de Brazza and Dr. Ballay. To the list are added such species of the colony of Gaboon as were previously represented in the Paris Museum by unquestionably authenticated specimens. This makes a total of 152. But if we add the species enumerated by Cassin in his papers upon Du Chaillu's collections not represented at Paris, the whole avifauna of this district would appear to embrace at least 300 species.

The new species now described are *Dendropicus sharpii* and *Dicrurus sharpii*. Figures are given of *Sigmodus rufiventris*, *Ixonotus guttatus*, and *Querquedula hartlaubi*.

46. Oustalet on Birds from the Loss Islands.

[Note sur une petite collection d'oiseaux provenant des îles Loss, Afrique Occidentale. *Ibid.* p. 149.]

The Loss Islands lie off Sierra Leone, on the West-African coast. The collection received contained examples of fifteen mostly well-known species; but amongst them was the fine new Glossy Starling, *Coccycolius iris*, previously described (*cf.* *Ibis*, 1879, p. 475), but now figured.

XXIII.—Letters, Announcements, &c.

We have received the following letters addressed to the Editors of 'The Ibis':—

December 16, 1879.

SIRS,—At a meeting of the Zoological Society last May I exhibited an Owl from Mount Sinai, which I believed to